

Approved For Release 1999/09/08 : CIA-RDP82-00457R00180039

# INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Austria/Czechoslovakia/USSR

SUBJECT Koerbitz Glass Factory  
25X1A

PLACE  
ACQUIRED

DATE OF II  
25X1X

DATE DISTR. 25 August 1948

NO. OF PAGES 1

NO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. 25X1A

CIA LIBRARY

1. Until 1938, the Bank of Moravia, with main offices in Brno, Czechoslovakia, owned all or most of the capital of the glass factory, S. Reich & Co., Voitsberg, Styria. In 1938 the factory was "aryanized" by Adolf Koerbitz, a Sudeten German, who purchased the factory and a warehouse at Vienna IV, Margarethenstrasse 23, for a total purchase price of RM 233,000. This represented only a fraction of the real worth, since the installations were valued at more than RM 1,000,000. (Comment: Koerbitz, originally from Tenlitz, had acquired a glass factory in Oberdorf near Graz through Nazi influence shortly after the occupation of Austria.) 25

(Washington Comment: For previous information on Koerbitz, see [REDACTED].)

2. In 1946, the Soviets confiscated the warehouse, located in the Soviet sector of Vienna, on the grounds that Koerbitz, as a Sudeten German, was to be considered a German national and the warehouse, therefore, a "German asset". At an unspecified later date, USIA began to sell large stores of glassware from this warehouse. The glass was particularly valuable since it was hollow glass (Hohlglas), used for medical purposes and in short supply on the Austrian market.
3. Recently, the Czechoslovak Government made representations to USIA that the glassware now being sold by USIA had originally been property of the Bank of Moravia, which still considers itself as the rightful owner.
4. Major Alexander Fedotyev, chief of the legal section of USIA, promised that the sale of glassware would be halted for the time being, until a settlement of the matter could be reached through diplomatic channels. The Czechoslovak Government, he declared, had already announced its intention of discussing the matter with the Soviet Government through the Czechoslovak Legation in Moscow.

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

Next Review Date: 2008

Document No.

NO CHANGE in Class. ☐

~~DECLASSIFIED~~

Class CHANGED TO: TS S C

DPA Memo, 4 Jan 77

Auth: DDA REG 7712197

Date: 27 May 78 033

**CLASSIFICATION**

**SECRET**

[illegible]

**CONFIDENTIAL**

~~SECRET~~